

ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION NEWS

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P.O. BOX 1419 NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND 02840

Summer, 1995 No. 18

ROSE GARDEN PARTY

On Saturday, June 24th our first annual Rose Garden Party was held at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H.I. Goddard at 74 Bridge Street in The Point section of Newport.

Arriving guests were greeted by the strains of harpist Linda Larson. Everyone seemed to agree that delaying our teatime for two weeks to accommodate the whims of mother nature provided a spectacle well worth the wait. The Goddard's fabulous pink and white rose garden was a perfect setting for the afternoon gathering. Guests enjoyed a traditional tea party menu along with some extra special touches. Everyone received an exquisite rosebud shaped chocolate prepared specially for the occasion.



Several prizes were awarded for the most creative use of roses in attire. Wearing their tea party finery are, Eleanor Sanders, 1st prize, Jenny Flanagan, 2nd prize and Beth Clarke, 3rd prize.

The party's success was due in large measure to our many volunteers and contributors. Bakers included Kay Parent, Laurie Shaw, Anne Cuvelier, Mary Kate "Mikie", Joan Bartram, John Philcox from Le Bistro, Pat Chase (who shared her recipes for

and then made hundreds of tea sandwiches) and Maria Chase (who made sandwiches and picked baskets of fresh strawberries). Party planning and set-up was in the able hands of Geri Pilkington and Karen Augeri Benson. They were assisted by volunteers Mary Fairman, Jill Muennich, and the always effervescent Jeannie Sullivan.

RILF also wishes to thank Mike Corcoran at Newport Tent, Ilsa Nesbit of the Third and Elm Press, Lynne Cullen who designed our beautiful invitations, and contest judges Mrs. Jean Gorham and Mary Newman. Mary also designed our beautiful fresh flower centerpiece and decorated the garden to compliment Mrs. Goddard's gorgeous roses.

We intend to make this an annual event, so if you were unable to attend this year take heart. We will keep you posted on our plans for a second annual Rose Garden Tea Party.

RICH GRANT

Thanks to the vision and efforts of Jim Sulanowski, the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation was awarded a \$3,250. grant from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities (RICH) to create a video documentary script about the Lighthouse and Rose Island.

Eileen Warburton lent her considerable talents to this effort by writing the script. The next phase is to shoot the video footage on the island which will involve Jim Karpeichik, a Channel 10 cameraman. The finished product will document the history of the Island and the Lighthouse. It will describe the restoration of the Lighthouse by the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation and the educational work being conducted here today.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Springtime brought many young visitors to the Lighthouse for our educational programs including students and classes from Cranston Calvert, Pennfield School, Sheffield School, St. Michael's, Tiverton High School, and Thompson Middle School, some of whom are pictured below sporting newly purchased life-jackets, bought with funds donated by the Environmental Club of the Western Hills Junior High School in Cranston.



Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation was awarded a Rhode Island Foundation Grant in support of research to prepare a nomination of Ft. Hamilton (1798-1800) on Rose Island to the National Register of Historic Places.



The hardworking Boy Scout Troop #31 Crompton (seen above) camped out overnight and went to work clearing a fortification wall (circa 1798) of tangled brush and debris. This wall has been hidden from view since World War II, so the young men really had their work cut out for them.

This wall is part of Ft. Hamilton, which was recently determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the Department of Interior National Park Service.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these dates:

August 7 - Annual Meeting and 2nd Anniversary of Relighting the Light. To be held at Fort Adams starting at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a tour of the newly opened fort by Edwin Connelly. Picnic dinners will be available. Call by August 3 for reservations. 847-4242.

September 9 - Clambake at Rose Island (details to follow)

September 23 - "We Rows for Rose" Canoe/Kayak rowing race to benefit Rose Island Lighthouse. Sponsored in conjunction with Atlantic Outfitters of Newport. Join us for the one and three-quarter mile paddle from Fort Adams to the Lighthouse. Prizes will be awarded in four Racing Division Classes, as well as numerous randomly drawn prizes! Registration at Fort Adams on the beach in front of the Mule Barn 7 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Race starts at 8 a.m. rain or shine. Volunteers are needed for race day. We can use small boat owners to mark the course, spotters, and greeters on the Island. For more information, to volunteer or to register for this event please call the Foundation office weekdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at 847-4242.



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JG EVENTS

Calendars for these dates:

Annual Meeting and 2nd
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List 3 for reservations. 847-4242.

9 - Clambake at Rose Island
(low)

23 - "We Rows for Rose"
rowing race to benefit Rose
House. Sponsored in conjunction
Outfitters of Newport. Join us
and three-quarter mile paddle from
the Lighthouse. Prizes will be
our Racing Division Classes, as
various randomly drawn prizes!
at Fort Adams on the beach in
July 7 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Race
rain or shine. Volunteers are
needed day. We can use small boat
mark the course, spotters, and
at Rose Island. For more information,
please register for this event please
at the registration office weekdays between 9
a.m. at 847-4242.



ROSE ISLAND EMBROIDERED SWEATSHIRT



Heavy-weight preshrunk cotton sweatshirt with
ROSE ISLAND embroidered beautifully across
the front. Very appealing with soft comfort
from the very first time you put it on.

Part # 1255
Color: Denim, Forest, Wine
Sizes: S-XXL
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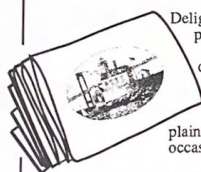
THE ROSE ISLAND COLLECTION



Distinctive Gifts from Rose Island Newport, Rhode Island

& MBS Inc a licensee of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation

ROSE ISLAND NOTE CARDS



Delightful John Hagen
pen & ink rendition of the
Rose Island Lighthouse
depicted on recycled & acid
free paper. Antique appeal.
Complete with
envelope and
plain inside for many writing
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Part # 1100
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ROSE ISLAND COFFEE MUG

This classic mug is built rugged
to be a lasting companion.
White with a navy logo
imprint.

Part # 1330
Price 6.00ea



ROSE ISLAND CLASSIC TEE



Rose Island lighthouse
overlooking Rose Island
and Newport harbor.
100% preshrunk
cotton dyed tee.
Full front graphic
tone on tone appeal.

Part # 1012
Sizes M-XL
Colors Newport Blue
Price 14.00

TO ORDER CALL 1 800 771-8245

A black and white line drawing of a baseball cap. The cap has a curved brim and a button on top. On the front of the cap, there is a rectangular patch with the text "ROSE ISLAND" on the top line and "NEWPORT, RI" on the bottom line. To the left of the cap, the word "CAP" is written in a serif font.

Part #	1470
Colors	White, Grey Khaki
Price	15.00



Part#	1015
Dimension	28"x18.5"
Price	18.00

Part#	1020
Dimension	24"x16"x7"
Price	18.00

Part #	1290
Sizes	M-XL
Colors	Periwinkle Blue Rose Red
Price	30.00



Part # 1200	Price 11.00
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Part #	1010
Sizes	M-XL
Colors	Perrywinkle Blue Rose Red
Price	14.00

CURRENT MEMBERS MAY DEDUCT 1.00 FROM EACH ITEM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DAY TEL # _____

PAYMENT METHOD

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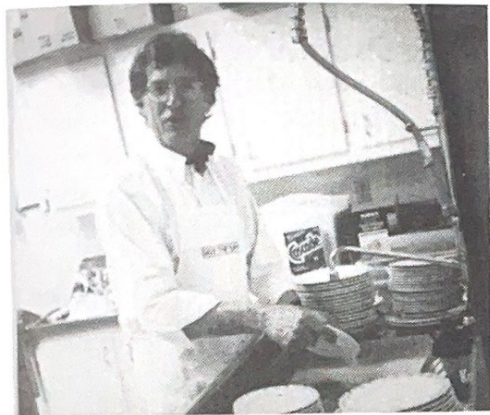
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NAME ON CARD _____

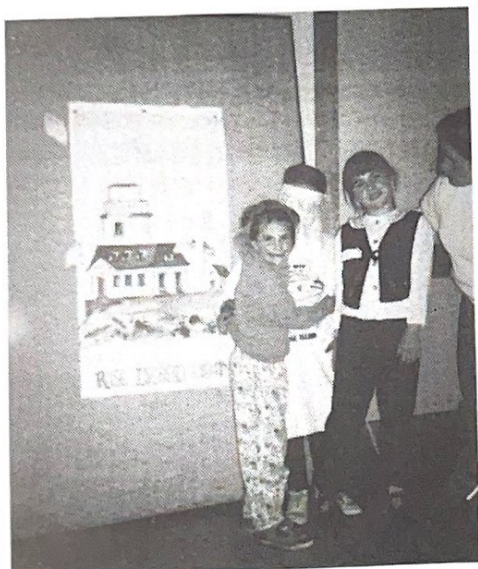
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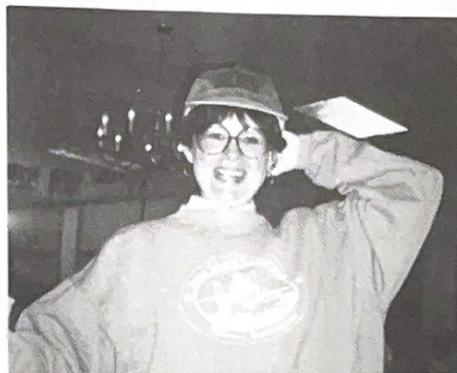
Many hearty "thank-yous" to our dedicated group of donors and volunteers who really made things happen. Aidnoff's and Wellington Square Liquors, Tom Cullen and Luke Murray at The Black Pearl, Trinity Church, Salas' Restaurant for spaghetti, King Phillip Inn and Pokanoket Tribe of Bristol for the outstanding meatballs and sauce.



Thanks also to our hardworking members who keep the "fun" in our fundraising events. That queen of the kitchen, Laurice Shaw fed our guests with style. Special thanks to the kitchen crew, Francis Walker, Jesse Brown, and John D'Alessio, and finally the singing dishwasher, bartender and all around volunteer extraordinaire Fud Benson. (above)



The Pin-the-Light-on the Lighthouse game was created & donated by Eleanor Dickinson.



Guests at the Spaghetti Supper were encouraged to come as someone famous...we dined with the likes of Cleopatra, aka our own Board Member Geri Pilkington.

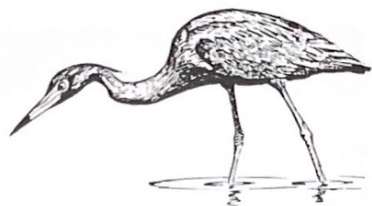
BIRDING ON ROSE ISLAND

In May of 1990 we set out in our wooden skiff the *Point Hummer* for her maiden cruise of the season to Rose Island. We made straight for the northeast side of the Island where the beach runs beneath a crumbling sea wall, in a long curve parallel to the Newport Bridge. On this first of many Spring visits, we were looking for the birds that we hoped were nesting on this part of the Island, adjacent to the shore of what we call "the lagoon".

That year we were happy to note that a small colony of wading birds had again set up housekeeping on Rose Island. It was wonderful to observe Great White Egrets, *Casmerodius albus* and Snowy Egrets, *Egretta Thula*, nesting harmoniously among the brush and small trees that this part of the Island offers.

In six years, we have watched with growing pleasure as the Island developed into a significant rookery for at least six species of waders. Rookery is the term used to denote a congregation or colony of gregarious birds assembled to breed and nest. In the Rose Island rookery, we are presently observing Black-crowned Night-Herons, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus*, and just last year the first Little Blue Heron, *Egretta caerulea*. Whether the latter has come here to reproduce or simply to consort with fellow waders is as yet unknown.

Birding on Rose Island *continued*



Of the above
list, the
Glossy Ibis

is far and away the most abundant on Rose Island. They make up more than 75% of the nesting population of the rookery. The ibis are a beautiful, dark-colored bird with feathers that are iridescent in the sunlight. A distinctive field mark is the long curved bill with which they probe the ground in search of food. They can also be seen feeding on Aquidneck Island in pastures and farms.

If you would like to observe these birds nesting, it is important to remember that we ask our members not to go ashore until after July 15th. We have devised an alternative method, set forth below, for observing the rookery whereby going ashore is not necessary.

Kayaks, canoes and windsurfers are all unobtrusive to the nesting wildlife.

With a decent pair of binoculars, one need not venture any closer than 20 yards offshore to enjoy a spectacular view of these seasonal visitors.

If you do go by motorized craft, be sure take the following precautions: (1) Check the charts! There are plenty of navigational hazards. For all but the most shallow draft vessels the lagoon is not accessible at low tide. (2) Cut your engines well off the beach and idle or scull in to anchor. (3) Be observant to the birds behavior. If your arrival causes more than a ruffle among the Gulls, and in particular if they take to the sky with cries of alarm, back off. We consider the Gulls the beach sentinels; they are more tolerant of man than most other birds and if they are upset by human presence, you can be sure the more skittish species, such as the Oyster Catchers, *Haematopus palliatus*, are also disturbed. (4) Position your boat well off the beach so as to avoid disturbing the nesting sites.

For further reading on coastal birding: Kopper, Philip; *The Wild Edge - Life and Lore of the Great Atlantic Beaches*. Tinbergen, Niko; *The Herring Gull's World.*, Peterson, Roger Tory; *A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies*.

THANK YOU...

If you have ever wondered how the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation manages on such a modest budget, just have a look at the list below. Thanks to these generous members and friends we are able to maintain and even upgrade the Lighthouse and its environs.

Alicia Spinner for the loan of her family's kerosene parlor lamp. **Roger Gilman** for the twist type doorbells. **Doug Ferguson** for chain and lots of other needed boat gear. **Ted & Kathy Spargo**, for the used appliances and cabinets which we sold, bartered or used at the Lighthouse. **Ed Young** for the 1919 History of the Torpedo Station. **Colette & Bill Stowell** for the "Rose-y" sheet music and **Terry & Don Mayer** for the 51 player piano rolls. **Barbara French** for the counted x-stitch kits and framed lighthouse mirror. **Wanton Chase** for historical documents of Charles Curtis' appointment to Rose Island as keeper in 1887. **Crystal Spring** for two ceramic water dispensers. **Ilse Nesbit** for a wood block print of Rose and Goat Island Lighthouses. **RADM and Mrs. David Chandler** for a reproduction U.S. Lighthouse Service wall clock. **Cutler Godfrey** for a library copy of Eileen Warburton's *In Living Memory*. **Bruce Marshfield**, for the flag, **Laurie Shaw** for the keepers napping bed, drapes and down comforters, plus the loan of many other pieces of furniture and treasures that help make the Lighthouse museum so livable and attractive. **Joe Bouchard** for the precious Lighthouse model pictured below.



THANK YOU... *continued*

Peter Simpson & Family for the soon-to-bear-fruit blueberry bushes. **So. County Montessori School** for the *Rosa Rugosa* plants. Artists **John Hagen, Marcelle Casavant, Art Nolan, and Bill Kaufhold** for wonderful paintings, drawings and photographs of the Lighthouse. **Steve Lirakis** for safety harnesses to wear while we're repairing the bastion wall. **Newport Water Dept.** for water saver kits. **Andi Lyons** for framing x-stitch work done by **Sandra Schwartz and Kathleen V. Schwarz.**

The *Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation News* is published by the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation, Karen Augeri Benson, Editor. Non-profit postage PAID at Newport, R.I. 02840. This 501(c)(3) tax exempt foundation has restored the Rose Island Lighthouse and is developing compatible, environmentally sensitive programs that will enrich people's lives for many years to come in the fields of history, preservation, ecology, conservation and recreation. Mail correspondence to Charlotte Johnson, RILF News, P.O. Box 1419, Newport, R.I. 02840. Telephone (401) 847-4242.



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WISH LIST



As our work continues we discover that there is a never ending list of items that would be useful at the Lighthouse or in our fundraising. If you have any of the items on our wish list or have other items that you would like to donate, please contact the RILF office at 847-4242.

Small gas-powered generator
Small oak Ice-Box
2 Tall bookcases for the library
Drop leaf table
Glass doors from old cupboards
Solar garden lights
Portable computer
Fishing rods & reels
Barbecue-type smoker
Field Guide Books (shells, birds, plants etc.)
Rose Postage stamps (self-stick, 32-cent kind)
Small braided, hooked or oriental rugs
Double (full) size brass bed
Trivial Pursuit Game

Please include your current phone number and write "same" if the following information matches your mailing label on the reverse side:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 Inspector |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 10 Senior | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100 Superintendent |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 250 Assistant Keeper |
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Thank you for your support!
 Phone: 401-847-4242

Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation
 P.O. Box 1419, Newport, RI 02840-0997



ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE TOURS

Fridays and Saturdays
(July 21 - Labor Day)
1:00 - 3:00 PM

TICKET PRICES:
\$12 Adults, \$10 Children,
Seniors & Members

- From Newport: Tours leave Goat Island Marina fuel dock, near the Marina Pub at 1 PM.
- From Jamestown: Tours leave from the Conanicut Marina (see public ferry schedule).
- Reserved tickets are given priority.
- Tours are subject to weather conditions and minimum participation.
- Please wear soft-sole shoes for the boat ride and up-hill hike to the Lighthouse.

For Reservations Call: 401- 847- 4242

MEMBER NOTE: If the top of your mailing label ends with a '96, you are a member in good standing until June 30, 1996. If you have not yet renewed or joined won't you please consider coming aboard now? Call 401-847-4242 for more details (or to correct our records if we're in error)

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